

Appl. No. 09/160,965
Amdt. dated Oct. 18, 2003
Reply to Office action of Aug. 21, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner Kielin is thanked for ongoing careful examination of the subject Patent Application.

Applicants are submitting a new Rule 1.131 Declaration which is now believed in compliance.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-2, and 4, 6, 10-12 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Lin (US 6,093,656) in view of Rathore et al. (US 6,069,068) and Datta et al. (US 5,567,300) is requested, in light of the following arguments.

The rejection of claims 1-2, and 4, 6, 10-12 is moot because the inventors have sworn behind the Rule 1.131 Declaration and Lin is, therefore, no longer part of the prior art.

It is requested that should Examiner Kielin not find that the Claims are now Allowable that he please call the undersigned attorney at (845) 452-5863, to overcome any problems preventing allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg # 37,761